IN THE CLAIMS:

All claim amendments and cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17 and 73 are allowed. Please amend the claims as follows:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) A method for generating an adenoviral vector comprising welding together two nucleic acid molecules wherein said two nucleic acid molecules comprise partially overlapping sequences capable of combining with one another allowing the generation of a physically linked nucleic acid comprising at least two functional adenovirus inverted terminal repeats, a functional encapsulation signal and a nucleic acid encoding at least one adenoviral E1-region protein, at least one adenoviral E2-region encoded protein and/or at least one adenoviral E4-region encoded protein and a nucleic acid sequence of interest or functional parts thereof and wherein at least one of said E1-region encoded proteins is under transcriptional control of a conditionally active promoter.

18-71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently amended) A method for generating an adenoviral vector comprising welding together, through homologous recombination, two nucleic acid molecules comprising partially overlapping sequences wherein said overlapping sequences of each nucleic acid molecule of said two nucleic acid molecules comprise essentially only one continuous sequence such that homologous recombination may occur, leading to the generation of a physically linked nucleic acid comprising at least two functional adenovirus inverted terminal repeats, a functional encapsulation signal and a nucleic acid sequence of interest or functional parts thereof; at least one nucleic acid molecule of said two nucleic acid molecules comprising an adenoviral capsid protein encoding nucleic acid derived from two different adenovirus serotypes, wherein said welding together is performed in a cell as deposited at the ECACC under number 96022940.

73. (Allowed) A method for generating an adenoviral vector comprising welding together through homologous recombination, two nucleic acid molecules comprising partially overlapping sequences wherein said overlapping sequences of each nucleic acid molecule of said two nucleic acid molecules comprise essentially only one continuous sequence whereby homologous recombination may occur, leading to the generation of a physically linked nucleic acid comprising at least two functional adenovirus inverted terminal repeats, a functional encapsulation signal, a nucleic acid encoding at least one adenoviral E1-region protein, at least one adenoviral E2-region encoded protein and/or at least one adenoviral E4-region encoded protein and a nucleic acid sequence of interest or functional parts thereof and wherein at least one of said E1-region encoded proteins is under transcriptional control of a conditionally active promoter.

74-75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 75, wherein said mammalian cell is a cell~~ A method for generating an adenoviral vector comprising welding together through homologous recombination two nucleic acid molecules, wherein said two nucleic acid molecules comprise partially overlapping sequences capable of combining with one another allowing the generation of a physically linked nucleic acid comprising at least two functional adenovirus inverted terminal repeats, a functional encapsulation signal and a nucleic acid sequence of interest or functional parts thereof; at least one of said molecules comprising an adenoviral capsid protein encoding nucleic acid derived from two different adenovirus serotypes, wherein said welding together is performed in a cell as deposited at the ECACC under number 96022940.

77. (Canceled)

78. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~16~~ 76, wherein at least one of said

two nucleic acid molecules is derived from an adenoviral vector library, said adenoviral vector library comprising a multitude of nucleic acid molecules including different nucleic acids of interest.

79. (Canceled)

80. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~79~~ 89, wherein said capsid protein is a hexon protein.

81. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~79~~ 89, wherein said capsid protein is a penton base protein.

82. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~79~~ 89, wherein said capsid protein is a fiber protein.

83. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~79~~ 89, wherein ~~at least a part of~~ said capsid protein includes at least a part of ~~is~~ a fiber protein ~~derived from an adenovirus~~ of a subgroup B-type adenovirus.

84. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 83, wherein said subgroup B-type adenovirus is adenovirus 16.

85-88. (Canceled)

89. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 88, wherein said cell is~~ A method for generating an adenoviral vector comprising welding together at least two nucleic acid molecules wherein said at least two nucleic acid molecules comprise partially overlapping sequences capable of combining with one another allowing the generation of a physically linked

nucleic acid comprising at least two functional adenovirus inverted terminal repeats, a functional encapsulation signal and a nucleic acid sequence of interest; at least one of said at least two nucleic acid molecules comprising adenoviral capsid proteins encoding nucleic acid derived from at least two different adenovirus serotypes, wherein said welding together is performed through homologous recombination of overlapping sequences in the nucleic acid and wherein said welding together is performed in a cell as deposited at the ECACC under number 96022940.